



6712-01

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Information Collection Being Reviewed by the Federal Communications Commission

[OMB 3060-1151]

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: As part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork burdens, and as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520), the Federal Communications Commission (FCC or the Commission) invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on the following information collection. Comments are requested concerning: whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information shall have practical utility; the accuracy of the Commission's burden estimate; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and ways to further reduce the information collection burden on small business concerns with fewer than 25 employees. The FCC may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid control number. No person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information subject to the PRA that does not display a valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number.

DATES: Written PRA comments should be submitted on or before **[INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER]**.

If you anticipate that you will be submitting comments, but find it difficult to do so within the period of time allowed by this notice, you should advise the contact listed below as soon as possible.

ADDRESSES: Direct all PRA comments to Nicole Ongele, FCC, via email PRA@fcc.gov and to Nicole.Ongele@fcc.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For additional information about the information collection, contact Nicole Ongele at (202) 418-2991.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

OMB Control Number: 3060-1151.

Title: Sections 1.1420, 1.1422 and 1.1424, Pole Attachment Access Requirements.

Form Number: N/A.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Respondents: Business or other for-profit.

Number of Respondents: 823 respondents; 36,207 responses.

Estimated Time Per Response: 20-45 hours.

Frequency of Response: On occasion reporting requirement, recordkeeping requirement and third party disclosure requirement.

Obligation to Respond: Mandatory. Statutory authority for this information collection is contained in 47 U.S.C. section 224.

Total Annual Burden: 449,441 hours.

Total Annual Cost: No cost.

Privacy Act Impact Assessment: No impact(s).

Nature and Extent of Confidentiality: No questions of a confidential nature are asked.

Needs and Uses: In Report and Order and Order on Reconsideration, FCC 11-50, the Commission adopted rules that related to implementation of section 224 pole attachment access rules. Specifically, the pole attachment access rules create a series of deadlines or “timelines” by which communications providers (“attachers”) request and receive permission from electric utilities and incumbent LECs (“pole owners” or “utilities”) to attach facilities to utility poles (“access”). A denial (or partial grant) of access by a utility must include all relevant evidence and information, and explain how the evidence and information relate to lack of capacity, safety, reliability, or engineering standards. In practice, this requirement causes the utility to survey the requested poles where access is requested and to perform an engineering analysis. Other paperwork burdens are triggered during the pole-preparation stage of the timeline (“make-ready”). These include sending letters of notification to any known entities with existing attachments and the requesting attacher. Such notification letters are sent when a make-ready schedule is established. If the make-ready period is interrupted; and if the pole owner asserts its right to one 15-day extension of time, notification letters are also required. Pole owners both perform and coordinate make-ready work. Additionally, the Order adopted a rule requiring utilities to post a list of approved contractors, and required new attachers that use contractors to perform pole attachment surveys or make-ready work in lieu of the utility using its own workers to choose from among approved contractors. If an attacher uses a utility-approved contractor, it must notify the utility, and invite the utility to send a representative to oversee the work.

Finally, the Order also broadens the existing enforcement process by permitting incumbent local exchange carriers (LECs) to file complaints alleging that the attachment rates demanded by electric utilities are unreasonable. The Order also encourages incumbent LECs that benefit from lower pole attachment costs to file data at the Commission that demonstrate that the benefits are being passed on to consumers.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION.

Marlene H. Dortch,
Secretary.
Office of the Secretary
Office of the Managing Director

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